

from the group consisting of new transmissions, retransmissions, acknowledgements (ACKs), negative acknowledgements (NACKs), and multi-level ACK/NACK message corresponds to multi-level ACK/NACK messages.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein a multi-level ACK/NACK message corresponds to multiple transmissions that end within the same time slot.

20. (Cancelled)

REMARKS

The CLAIMS ARE PATENTABLE OVER THE CITED REFERENCES

A. Claims 1-5, 8 and 11-14

In the Office Action claims 1-5, 8 and 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) based on a combination of Koorapaty et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,631,124 (“Koorapaty”) and Odenwalder et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,804,220 (“Odenwalder”). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Neither Koorapaty nor Odenwalder, taken separately or in combination, discloses or suggests the transmission of at least one transmission that comprises a number of contiguous sub-slots associated with at least two time slots, where the number of subslots included in the transmission from each timeslot may vary from timeslot to timeslot, and where the transmission is associated with its own control channel as in claims 1-5, 8 and 11-14.

In more detail, Fig. 1 of the present application shows an exemplary transmission 127 that is made up of 3 subslots (boxes with diagonal lines), where two subslots are part of timeslot 112 and one subslot is a part of timeslot 111. This is one example of a transmission where the number of subslots included in the transmission (e.g., 127) from each timeslot (111,112) varies

from timeslot (111; one subslot) to timeslot (112; two subslots), and where the transmission (127) is associated with its own control channel (e.g., see SPDCCH 150 extending across timeslot 111 and 112 only) . Neither Koorapaty nor Odenwalder discloses such a transmission that is used *in combination with* a separate control channel as in claims 1-5, 8 and 11-14.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-5, 8 and 11-14.

B. Claim 6

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) based on the combination of Koorapaty, Odenwalder and Toskala et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,535,503 (“Toskala”). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Applicants note that claim 6 depends on claim 1 and is therefore patentable over the combination of Koorapaty, Odenwalder and Toskala for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1 because Toskala does not overcome the deficiencies of Koorapaty and Odenwalder.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 6.

C. Claims 18 and 19

Claims 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on the combination of Koorapaty, Odenwalder and Malkamaki et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,577,024 (“Malkamaki”). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at the following reasons.

Applicants note that claims 18-19 depend on claim 1 and are, therefore, patentable over the combination Koorapaty, Odenwalder and Malkamaki for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1 because Malkamaki does not overcome the deficiencies of Koorapaty and Odenwalder.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 18 and 19.

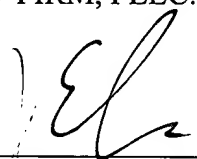
In the event this response does not place the present application in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (703) 266-3330 to schedule a personal interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3777 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

CAPITOL PATENT & TRADEMARK LAW FIRM, PLLC.

By



John E. Curtin, Reg. No. 37,602
P.O. Box 1995
Vienna, Virginia 22183
(703) 266-3330